

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 12, 13, 16, and 22 have been amended. Claim 35 has been added and has support in claim 6. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Objections

Claims 1-34 have been objected to because of alleged informalities. Applicants respectfully submit that the objections are not valid. Although the claim language may not be the Examiner's desired preference of expression, it is still of a form that satisfies the statutory requirements. Terms such as "adapted" and "generally" are permitted. For example, note MPEP § 2173.05(g) and *Arvin Industries* (CA 7), 188 USPQ 49. Nevertheless, some claims have been amended to correct typographical errors and to conform to the Examiner's desired style, as requested.

The Rejections

Claims 1-16 and 22-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Katou (US 6,572,013).

Claims 17 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Katou in view of McNaughton (US 6,296,079).

Claims 18-21 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Katou in view of McNaughton and Deaville (US 5,566,809).

Katou Does Not Anticipate The Claims

For brevity the Applicants have not necessarily presented all of the reasons as to why Katou does not anticipate the claims. Applicants reserve the right to later present additional reasons. Nevertheless, Applicant's remarks show that Katou does not teach every feature and relationship arranged in the manner recited in the claims, as is required to sustain the rejections.

Claim 1

Katou does not teach the recited cash acceptor mechanism and chest portion relationship. There is no teaching in Katou of an automated banking machine apparatus comprising a cash acceptor mechanism that is movably mounted in supporting connection with a chest portion for movement relative to an opening in the chest portion.

The Action is silent as to what constitutes the recited cash acceptor mechanism in Katou. Regardless, none of Katou's elements constitute the recited cash acceptor mechanism. None of Katou's deposit/withdrawal machine (1), upper transport mechanism (1a), or bill hopper (216) is taught as being movably mounted in supporting connection with the secured bill box casing (106), movable relative to the bill box casing opening (501h), and having the ability to separate, evaluate, and segregate notes.

Katou's machine (1) includes (col. 6, lines 32-48) a port (20), bill discriminating unit (30), bill transport path (50), and boxes (40, 60, 70, 80, 81). However, there is no teaching that these elements are movable relative to the opening (501h). Where does Katou teach that the discriminating unit (30) is movable relative to the opening (501h)?

Katou's transport mechanism (1a) includes (col. 7, lines 1-3) the port (20), the bill discriminating unit (30), the box (40), and the bill transport path (50). Again, there is no

teaching that these elements are movable relative to the opening (501h).

Katou's bill hopper (216) lacks the ability to separate, evaluate, and segregate notes.

It follows that Katou does not anticipate claim 1.

Claim 22

Note Applicants' remarks in support of the patentability of claim 1. As previously discussed, Katou does not teach a movably mounted cash acceptor mechanism, or the cash acceptor mechanism and chest portion relationship. Thus, Katou does not anticipate claim 22.

The Dependent Claims

Each of the dependent claims depends directly or indirectly from an independent claim. The independent claims have been previously shown to be allowable. Thus, it is asserted that the dependent claims are allowable on the same basis.

Furthermore, each of the dependent claims additionally recites specific features and relationships that patentably distinguish the claimed invention over the applied art. The applied art does not teach the features and relationships that are specifically recited in the dependent claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are further allowable due to the recitation of such additional features and relationships. Neither McNaughton nor Deaville can alleviate the above noted deficiencies in Katou. None of the references, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features and relationships that are specifically recited in the claims.

Fee For Additional Claim

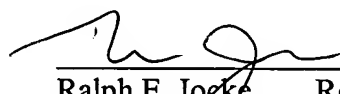
Please charge the fee associated with the submission of one additional total claim (\$18) and any other fee due to Deposit Account 09-0428.

Conclusion

Each of Applicants' pending claims specifically recite features and relationships that are neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the applied prior art. Furthermore, the applied prior art is devoid of any such teaching, suggestion, or motivation for combining features of the applied art so as to produce Applicants' invention. Allowance of all of Applicants' pending claims is therefore respectfully requested.

The undersigned will be happy to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Office's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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